

Claim 44. (New) A method for inhibiting interleukin-9 (IL-9) activity in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering an amount of a conjugate of IL-9 and a carrier to said subject, sufficient to induce production of antibodies which bind to and neutralize IL-9.

Claim 45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein said carrier is ovalbumin, keyhole limpet hemocyanin, acetylated bovine serum albumin, or Bortadella pertussis toxin.

Claim 46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said ovalbumin is maleimide substituted ovalbumin, conjugated to IL-9 via a free SH group in said IL-9.

Claim 47. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said carrier is cross-linked to IL-9 via glutaraldehyde.

Claim 48. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein said subject is a mammal.

Claim 49. (New) The method of claim 44, comprising administering said conjugate to said subject at intervals of about 2 weeks, for a period of about 6 weeks.

Claim 50. (New) The method of claim 44, comprising administering said conjugate in an amount ranging from about 1 μ g to about 10 μ g.

Claim 51. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein said subject suffers from a condition selected from the group consisting of excess lymphomagenesis, intestinal mastocytosis, overexpansion of β 1 lymphocytes, and bronchial hyperresponsiveness.

Claim 52. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein said subject is in need of reducing production of a Th2 cytokine.

Claim 53. (New) A method for inducing an elevated titer of an antibody which is specific for and neutralizes interleukin-9 (IL-9), comprising administering

to said subject an amount of a conjugate of IL-9 and a carrier in an amount sufficient to provoke production of antibodies specific to IL-9 which neutralize it, wherein the elevated titer of said antibody presents for at least six months following immunization.

Claim 54. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein said carrier is selected from the group consisting of ovalbumin keyhole limpet hemocyanin, acetylated bovine serum albumin, and Bortadella pertussis toxin.

Claim 55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein said ovalbumin is maleimide substituted ovalbumin, conjugated to IL-9 via a free SH group in said IL-9.

Claim 56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein said carrier is cross linked to IL-9 via gluteraldehyde.

Claim 57. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein said subject is a mammal.

Claim 58. (New) The method of claim 53, comprising administering said conjugate to said subject at intervals of about 2 weeks, for a period of about 6 weeks.

Claim 59. (New) The method of claim 53, comprising administering said conjugate in an amount ranging from about 1 μ g to about 10 μ g.

Claim 60. (New) A composition useful in generating an antibody which binds to and neutralizes interleukin-9, comprising a conjugate of interleukin-9 and ovalbumin, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 61. (New) The composition of claim 60, wherein said IL-9 and ovalbumin are conjugated via a free SH group in said IL-9, and said ovalbumin is substituted with maleimide.

Claim 62. (New) The composition of claim 61, wherein said ovalbumin is cross linked to IL-9 via glutaraldehyde.